

MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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MAJORITY

L.D. 226

Date: 4-9-09

(Filing No. S- 52)

STATE AND LOCAL GOVERNMENT

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STATE OF MAINE

SENATE

124TH LEGISLATURE

FIRST REGULAR SESSION

COMMITTEE AMENDMENT "A" to S.P. 76, L.D. 226, Bill, "An Act To Require a Vacancy in the Office of United States Senator To Be Filled by Election"

Amend the bill by striking out all of section 2 and inserting the following:

'Sec. 2. 21-A MRSA §391-A is enacted to read:

§391-A. United States Senators

When there is a vacancy in the office of United States Senator, the Governor shall issue a proclamation declaring the vacancy and ordering a special primary election followed by a special election to fill the vacancy as provided in section 366. If the United States Congress is in session, the elections must be held as soon as reasonably possible. If the United States Congress is not in session, the elections must be held before the next regular or called session.'

SUMMARY

This amendment, which is the majority report of the committee, removes the bill's proposed time limit of 60 days in which a primary and special election must be held to fill a vacancy in the office of United States Senator. It amends the language to match the language in statute to fill a vacancy in the office of Representative to Congress. The primary and special elections must be held as soon as reasonably possible if Congress is in session and before the next regular or called session if Congress is not in session.

FISCAL NOTE REQUIRED

(See attached)

COMMITTEE AMENDMENT



124th MAINE LEGISLATURE

LD 226

LR 687(02)

An Act To Require a Vacancy in the Office of United States Senator To Be Filled by Election

Fiscal Note for Bill as Amended by Committee Amendment "A"
Committee: State and Local Government
Fiscal Note Required: Yes

Fiscal Note

Potential future biennium cost increase - General Fund

Referendum Costs

Month/Year	Election Type	Question	Length
Jan-09	Special	Referendum	Standard

The Secretary of State estimates that ballot and other election costs would be approximately \$200,000 for the special primary and another \$250,000 for the special election if this situation were to occur.